

The Weekly Chronicle.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1872.

WEEKLY SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HOME.

Gen. McClellan has withdrawn from the directory of the Erie Railroad. Small pox is raging in New York city. The Ohio Falls Car Works at Jeffersonville, Indiana, were burned on the 20th inst., and seven hundred men thrown out of employment. The trial of Mayor Hall, of New York, is concluded. Female suffrage has been defeated in Massachusetts.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The officers and crew of the Kearsage have been voted \$100,000 for destroying the Alabama. Female suffrage has been asked for the Territories and the District of Columbia. The tariff is being considered.

FOREIGN.

Sir Charles Dilke's motion to investigate the expenses of Royalty in England received only two votes. The Academy of Arts at Düsseldorf is burned. The Roumanian Jews are still being severely persecuted. Eight communists have been sentenced to death in Paris. Mazatlan is besieged by the Juaristas.

OUR SECOND VOLUME.

With this issue closes the Second Volume of the WEEKLY CHRONICLE. For the two years just past we have labored to present to the people of East Tennessee a reliable journal and one devoted to their interests. We have endeavored, to the best of our ability, to advocate the principles of the National Republican party, believing the fundamental truths contained in its platform to be the best for the promotion of National prosperity, the preservation of National honor and the payment of the public debt.

That our efforts have been appreciated is attested by a subscription list far in excess of any other paper published in Knoxville the same length of time and an advertising patronage which is constantly increasing. From time to time we have introduced new features, and shall continue to do so, making it our aim to furnish a paper which will be welcome visitor to the Family Circle, as well as to the politician and business man.

The present year is portentous with events of vital interest to our State and the whole country. The election of members of the Legislature, Representatives in Congress and President and Vice President of the United States takes place in November, and it behooves the people to keep themselves informed on the political issues of the campaign which is now opening and promises to be one of the most animated in the annals of our Government.

It is the duty of every man to keep himself informed on all the important questions that arise in order to act intelligently in the selection of public officials. To furnish such a medium of information as will be in every respect reliable will be our constant aim. With an unswerving confidence in the patriotism and integrity of President Grant, the CHRONICLE in the future, as in the past, will support the policy of his Administration, believing the interests of the country will be more greatly benefited thereby than in any other manner.

Our efforts will be used against corruption in all its forms and by whomsoever practiced, knowing that venality in high places is the greatest curse that can be brought upon a people. We will furnish the latest news by telegraph and mail while the Local and Commercial Departments will be full and reliable.

We call upon our friends everywhere to aid in extending our circulation. A slight effort in each locality would double our subscription list in a short time, and we hope they will give us their assistance. Start the ball and keep it rolling, and let every postoffice in East Tennessee begin with raising a club of subscribers for the KNOXVILLE WEEKLY CHRONICLE.

We trust every Republican member of the present Legislature will vote and work for the establishment of a State school system. The party makes intelligence one of the planks of its platform. Progress is its motto, and if this Legislature refuses to open the school house doors to the poor and ignorant we want to know who to hold responsible.

FURTHER PROPOSED CHANGES IN LAWS.

We referred yesterday to important amendments to our civil code proposed by the Convention of Circuit Judges, lately sitting in Nashville. Material changes were also proposed in the trial of criminal cases. They are substantially as follows: Jurors are not disqualified from sitting in cases, even though they have formed or expressed an opinion, if they swear they can, nevertheless, judge impartially. New trials will not be granted for disqualification of jurors, unless exception was made when juror was tendered. In capital cases the State shall have ten challenges for each defendant, and each defendant fifteen; in other felonies each defendant eight and State a like number. In cases, not capital or where imprisonment prescribed is not over ten years, the Judge in his discretion may allow jurors to separate during pendency of trial. In all cases the defendant may waive rights given by statute, and such waiver shall not be error.

The Convention also made certain suggestions for the benefit of the next Legislature, on subjects upon which the present body, specially convened, could not legislate.

They advise that the laws be changed as to what constitutes grand and petit larceny: the former to be the stealing of goods over thirty dollars in value, and the latter the stealing of goods of ten dollars or less in value.

In reference to replevin laws, they advise that the defendant in replevin suits be allowed to retain possession of the property on executing a bond for double its value to abide by the decision of the court.

They advise that in counties where there are no work-houses, that Commissioners be appointed to farm out the prisoners in the county jail until they work out the costs of their trial and the fine imposed upon them by the Courts.

In cases of appeal from the inferior court, they advise that the law provide for twelve and one-half per cent, on the amount of the judgment affirmed.

PARTISAN FOLLY.

In re-arranging the Congressional Districts of Tennessee the present Democratic Assembly do not propose to consult either the convenience or wishes of the people of the several Congressional Districts or the general principles that ought to control them in such a proceeding. Heretofore Legislatures have shown regard for the general interests and convenience of the people in these matters. The present districts are arranged with some reference to the common interests of the counties and with a decent regard for the convenience of the people. Even the proposed arrangements for the first and third districts are fair enough, so far as the geographical situation of the counties are concerned. But in the second district, the main purpose of the Assembly was to "beat Horace Maynard" and to do it the whole intellect of the party has been taxed for a year. To secure this end they have now planned a district which for inconvenience and conflict of interest of the several counties composing it, has no parallel in the country. The district begins on the southern boundary line of the State, at North Carolina, runs entirely across Tennessee to the Kentucky line, thence westward almost to Nashville. There are seventeen counties in the proposed district and but two of them have a railroad—a railroad runs a mile or two into a third.

A candidate to canvass it would have to ride on horse-back over five hundred miles. There are but three newspapers (so far as we are now informed) in the entire district. A Congressional Convention at any central point in the district would be held forty miles from the nearest railroad. The district is unshapely, unfairly mapped out and a fair indication of the Chinese, proscriptive policy of Tennessee Democracy. It is not at all certain, but that in their haste to beat Maynard they may yet beat themselves.

SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

A member of the Committee on re-districting the State, in reply to the enquiries of a friend in this city, under date of March 19th, says: "The Second District is proposed as follows, to-wit: Beginning on the Chilhowee mountain, in North Carolina, six miles above the Tennessee line, thence running in a miscellaneous course 1,255 miles to a beech on the west bank of the Mississippi river, and thence various courses for Democratic compliments to the beginning."

But after this just reflection on the fairness of Democratic legislation, he says: "However, the bill after being amended, and as introduced, reads thus: 'Knox, Anderson, Union, Campbell, Scott, Morgan, Roane, Fentress, Overton, Putnam, White, Clay, Jackson, Smith and Macon.'"

So it will be seen that the Democrats who want to go to Congress from this District were afraid to leave Sevier and De Kalb in the District, feeling that although their party had a majority in the counties comprising it in the two last elections, yet their public printing frauds, special legislation and general Democratic rascality so disgusted the honest men of their party, that there was still danger of defeat by a Republican gain. For these considerations two Republican counties were struck out, and a bill agreed upon that, as they believe, will secure the election of a Democrat. We shall see what we shall see.

Some changes were also made in the Third District. Sevier, Warren and De Kalb were added to it and Roane taken from it.

The Sweetwater Enterprise says Vaughn doesn't want to go to Congress, "that he will have nothing further to do with politics."

Wonder if the indictments pending against him in the Federal Court in this city have anything to do with his present aversion to politics? Our readers will remember he stands indicted in three cases for conspiracy to defraud the Government, and that these indictments were found by a grand jury composed of fifteen democrats and conservatives to eight Republicans.

COUNTY CONVENTION.

The Republican voters of Knox county are requested to meet in convention at the Court House in Knoxville, on Monday next, April 1st, at 12 M., for the purpose of selecting delegates to the State Republican Convention to be held at Nashville on the 15th of May, and such other matters as may be thought necessary to promote the cause of the party. A full attendance is desired. Let the people come out, and let us make a good beginning in the great contest for which we are preparing.

Wm. Rule,
Chairman Executive Committee.

TO THE REPUBLICANS OF EAST TENNESSEE.

A Convention of the Republican party of this State having been called to meet for the purpose of appointing delegates to the National Convention, it is recommended that the Republican voters in the several counties of East Tennessee, proceed at once to appoint delegates to the State Convention, and that the several County Committees call conventions for that purpose on the first Monday of April next, or as soon thereafter as possible.

XEN. WHEELER,
Geo. Andrews,
W. F. YARDLEY,
Geo. Ross,
J. A. GALBRAITH,
Committee for East Tennessee.

WHY WE OPPOSE "LIBERAL REPUBLICANS."

A friend asked us the other day what objections we would have against supporting Charles Francis Adams, or some other good Republican, on a "Liberal Republican platform," such as the Cincinnati Convention will probably adopt. The question is one of public importance and demands attention.

We object to the Cincinnati movement because the reforms it seeks to effect can be more certainly secured within the Republican organization than by an independent movement. It must now be apparent to the most sanguine friends of that movement, that of itself it cannot command strength enough to succeed. Its general results must inevitably be to strengthen the Democratic party for whatever influence it exerts comes from the Republican party. The Democracy understand this and therefore advertise and encourage the movement by fulsome flattery of some of its vain leaders and by holding out to them false promises.

As the nominee of the Republican party, we would support with pleasure, Chas. Francis Adams. As the result of an independent movement, the certain effect of which will be hostile to the very reform it professes to desire, we could not support him. This is not partisanship, it is patriotism. Let us explain our position more at length.

Back of the Cincinnati Convention, stands the Democratic party, "an unbroken, disciplined host," ready to take "an aggressive" part in the campaign to promote its own dangerous purposes. So proclaims its leading paper, the New York World. Its promise to the Cincinnati Convention is, go on and make your nominations and proclaim your principles. If you can draw strength enough from the Republican party to make our success probable, we will spit upon your platform, laugh at your folly and through our "unbroken and disciplined" vote, seize the White House and use the Federal treasury as we did the city treasury of New York. But if your Cincinnati movement is not formidable enough to divide the Republican vote, we will support your nominees for President and Vice President, but keep up our State organizations, and under cover of your banners of reform, elect as many straight Democratic Congressmen and United States Senators as possible. This is the programme of Democracy, stripped of all its deceitful surroundings. Suppose, then, the contest should be between Adams backed by the Democracy, and Grant as the regular Republican nominee. Suppose Republicans enough should support Adams to enable the Democrats to elect him. He would rule from the White House, like Johnson—a President without a party to co-operate with him. Democratic Congressmen would support him by legislation only so far as he would dispense patronage to strengthen their party. Having caused the defeat of the Republican party by a coalition with Democracy, he could not expect a Republican Senate or a Republican Congress to aid him in building up a party, by its history, policy and spirit, hostile to all the best interests of society and government. In such a position he would bring upon the country a contest with Congress as prejudicial to the general interests of the country and the best interests of all classes, as was the turmoil and strife incident to Johnson's administration.

Primarily, therefore, because we believe Grant honest and capable, and because he has made us a good President, we prefer him to any nominee the Cincinnati Convention can give us. Secondly, we prefer him because the general results to follow the Cincinnati movement must be to strengthen a party, corrupt and dangerous to civil liberty, at the expense of the Republican party, that rescued the government from the toils of rebellion and established it anew upon a firm basis in the interest of freedom and of honesty.

The Henry (Ohio) Signal files the following at its topmast:
FOR PRESIDENT:
ULYSSES S. GRANT,
Of Appomattox Court-House.

An honest man—a man without pretenses. Modest, though brave—though silent, full of sense.

Such are the traits that mark our CHOSEN MAN—Not him, O world! "and watch him if you can."

The Second Congressional District, as now proposed, was prepared, it is said, for Abraham E. Garrett, of Smith county, now a Representative in Congress from Skokes' old district. Some Middle Tennessee Democrat will get it. And so, exit poor Fleming. East Tennessee Union Democrats are at a discount at Nashville.

AN INTOLERANT SPIRIT.

The spirit of intolerance and oppression which has characterized the Tennessee Legislature in the passage of the Apportionment and other bills, is displayed, even in a higher degree, in the Kentucky Legislature. The city of Lexington in that State, has a majority of Republican voters, who would, of course, if left untrammelled, control the municipal government. To prevent this, the Legislature in 1870 passed a bill continuing the city council in office for a term of two years longer than the time for which they had been elected. Not considering it a safe party measure to allow the people of Lexington to choose their councilmen, the Legislature last week, passed an act continuing the Board for four years longer, and empowering them to choose their successors. The act is a flagrant violation of the Constitution of the State, but what do Democrats, when in power, care for a Constitution? The avowed purpose of the law, as proclaimed by Democrats in the discussion which preceded its passage, was to prevent the city government from falling into the hands of Republicans. And these are the men who talk about the infamies of the Radical party, in disfranchising the people! These are the men who prate about amnesty. We call upon honest men to behold them. View them as they are—a party of tyrants and canting hypocrites.

We take the action of this Kentucky Legislature as an earnest of what the party would do if it had the power. Wherever it could do so, Republicans and loyal men—those who opposed the outrages of the party at the beginning and during the war, would be deprived of any voice in the control of public affairs. They would be made to feel all the weight of an insolent, oppressive and relentless foe. We call the attention of every voter in this land to the intolerant spirit of Tennessee and Kentucky Democracy. If the leaders of the party are only properly understood, there is no danger. If the party should ever come into power, then farewell to our liberties.

AN IMPORTANT LAW PROPOSED.

There are some important bills before the General Assembly relative to our courts. A convention of Circuit Court Judges is in session at Nashville and being consulted in reference to these proposed laws. One of these is of public interest. Its main features may be summed up as follows: In all cases before courts of common law jurisdiction a jury shall be dispensed with in the trial of causes, unless the plaintiff or defendant demand it. If a jury is desired by either party it must be demanded in the pleadings. In appeal cases from Justices Court, the demand for a jury must be made on or before the third day of the first term of the court to which it is appealed. When a jury is demanded, before the jury is sworn, the party or parties demanding it, must pay ten dollars to pay expenses of the jury, unless they take the usual pauper oath. In all cases the Court may order a jury without a jury fee.

The Judges recommend the above and ask it to become a law.

THE KIND OF OFFICE HOLDERS GOING TO PHILADELPHIA.

Horace Greeley calls the Philadelphia Convention the "Office Holders' Convention." Several States have already chosen delegates to the Philadelphia Convention, but so far as we know, none of them are now office holders.

General Burnside, of Rhode Island, is a delegate, and it is true that he was once an officer in the United States service, but then it was a fighting office. He commanded a besieged army in Knoxville for sixteen days, living on bran-bread, half clad, surrounded by a rebel army. This was in 1863, about the time—well, very near the time, Greeley was clamoring for Lincoln to negotiate a treaty of peace with Jeff Thompson, in Canada.

There are a few newspapers blowing heavy for the Cincinnati Convention, but so far no organization has been developed to give it strength. It may be as largely attended as was the great Philadelphia Convention of 1866. That convention, though backed by the patronage of Johnson's administration, was a huge fizzle in its results.

The Cincinnati Commercial, noticing the New York World, Louisville Courier-Journal, &c., talking about the Democracy being aggressive and a "disciplined host," &c., says:

There can be no third party in the contest. There must be either unity of action between the Liberal Republicans and Democrats or there will be but two tickets having any strength before the people—that of the regular Republican and Democratic Conventions—and in such event there can be no doubt which will be elected.

While politicians are trying to magnify corruption and the dangers that beset our Republic, to promote their own personal ends, we find such an eminent scholar and shrewd observer as Prof. Goldwin Smith, an English writer of world-wide reputation, giving it as his opinion that Republicanism upon our model is the sole expedient for England. He would divide the kingdom into provinces, each with its separate Legislature exercising local government, while the central Parliament should wield the national authority. The House of Lords he would supersede by an elective body, while royalty would give place to an elected executive. Thus, calmer and more philosophic British thought is approximating closer and closer to our great American ideal of a confederated republic.

HENRY WARD BEECHER, who can not possibly be charged with being an office-seeker, is a very decided supporter of Grant. Bowen, of the Independent, is likewise a friend and supporter of the Administration. These two men edit the two great, influential religious papers of the East, each with a circulation of a hundred thousand copies. So it seems Grant has some friends not office holders.

The New York Herald says "The New Hampshire election was designed by Providence to convince the still stiff-necked allies of Jeff Davis of the necessity of making common cause with the dissatisfied Republicans against the man who had decorated that avrite of the chivalry with the Order of the Crinoline and Chignon."

THE IMPERSONALITY OF JOURNALISM.

There is a growing sentiment among editors that the personality of the editorial corps should not be known. The theory is that the paper speaks and not the man who writes the editorials. We should think that as a general rule the principle would hold good. In some cases, however, the readers of a paper have a right to know and should know the man who controls its policy and writes its articles.

An established paper of large influence and extended circulation, by the cunning manipulations of a few stockholders suddenly comes under the control of an unscrupulous man who uses its well earned reputation to gratify his mean, contemptible personal spite or makes merchandise of its good will and influence to fill his pockets. The readers of the paper are interested in knowing and will soon find out who is responsible for the change. The paper in such a case does not represent the principles that established it in the confidence of its readers. It speaks for an unworthy man who temporarily uses it for a bad purpose. In such cases it generally happens that the paper is none the less enterprising in its efforts to give the earliest and best news, and therefore does not materially lessen the number of its readers. But it most always happens that while it loses few readers it does lose their confidence. It is read as much perhaps as before, but it does not meet with the response and support from admiring and enthusiastic readers that it formerly did.

We know of newspapers of great circulation and wealth that have of late years greatly lost their influence. We know how some of their present editors, by unscrupulous combinations, supplanted men who made them what they are, who built them up from the beginning, but who to-day, though owning within a fraction of one-half the capital stock of the papers can not dictate a line of their editorials, can not control in any way the policy of the papers.

One of these papers, one of the most prominent in the Northwest, is to-day hounding General Grant for dishonesty. The man who edits it and controls it, secured the means to thus traduce an honest President by unscrupulous and his honorable combinations. Such facts are certainly worth considering when we come to estimate the influence of the press, and in such cases, at least, the personality of the editorial writers ought to be known.

THE WORTH OF DEMOCRATIC PROMISES?

We notice some of our Republican exchanges North, at first alarmed by the bold announcement of the New York World that in the coming campaign the Democracy would be aggressive, are now persuaded by the temper and promises of other Democratic exchanges that the Democracy will act in good faith to the Liberal Republicans who may co-operate with them in the overthrow of the present administration. Do these easily persuaded papers understand Democracy? If they want to know what such promises are worth, let them consult Ex-Governor Senter, and those Republican who co-operated with him in restoring to power the Democracy of Tennessee. If Andrew Johnson could be persuaded to come forth from his retreat in his quiet Greenville home, he could also give some valuable hints from his experience, as the worth of these promises. Democracy keep faith with Liberal Republicans? Not a bit of it! It stands to-day, in the language of the New York World, "an unbroken, disciplined host," ready to take aggressive part in the coming campaign the moment it sees the Republican party weak enough through the divisions it is now cunningly encouraging.

Talk about the good faith of a party that plunged the country into a terrible war for slavery! Talk about the value of promises from a party that has only now ceased to advocate repudiation of our national debt, because forced by repeated lessons to understand that it is unpopular!

The Union men of Tennessee who in the moment of weakness put their necks under the heel of this corrupt and treasonable old party, know the value of such promises, and we should think their experience would be enough to satisfy the most confiding, of the utter hypocrisy of the leaders who hold out such promises. The proscription, intolerance and meanness manifested by Tennessee Democrats towards the "Liberal" Republicans who enfranchised them and aided them to power is just what may be expected by the Liberal Republicans of the nation, if enough of them can be found to help Democracy into the White House.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

In the Senate on Thursday, March 19th, a resolution passed postponing the sale of the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad. The School bill was under consideration, but nothing definite was done. The sentiment of the Senate seems to be against establishing the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

In the House Mr. McGehee had passed a motion to have a committee report to the next Assembly on the revision of statutes. The Superintendent of the Penitentiary was allowed an additional \$1,000 salary and given the appointment of guards. The House agreed to Gibson's resolution for a joint committee on boundaries, and filled the five commissioners.

THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

By reference to our special dispatch from Nashville, it will be seen that the Senate has passed the Apportionment bill as it came from the House. In that shape it will probably become a law. It leaves the First District as at first given in the CHRONICLE with the exception, Union county is put on to it in place of Jefferson. The Second District is as follows:

Sevier, Jefferson, Knox, Anderson, Campbell, Scott, Morgan, Cumberland, Overton, Fentress, White, Putnam, Jackson, Clay, Macon and Smith.

The members of the English High Commission spent \$24,500 telegraphing to their government. The latter in telegraphing to the Commission spent about \$10,000. The total cost of the Commission to England was \$350,000.